The Jewish Gaily

FORWARD

SAN FRANCISCO CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

שער זהב

ADAR II/NISAN 5757 APRIL 1997

Pesach: Pharoah's Army Was Drowned

by Nina Wouk for the Ritual Committee Many modern Haggadot omit the traditional rejoicing in the drowning of Pharoah's army at the Red Sea. We may think this reflects a uniquely modern sensibility, but it doesn't. According to an ancient midrash of Rabbi Jochanan, God forbade the angels to sing their customary praises while the Egyptians were drowning: "My creatures are dying, and you want to sing?"

However, most traditional references to the splitting of the sea are unabashedly joyful, as in Psalm 136: "God who divided the Red Sea, Whose mercy endures forever/And brought Israel through dryshod, Whose mercy endures forever/ And drowned Pharoah and his army in the Red Sea/ Whose mercy endures forever." Why were past generations comfortable with this incongruity?

For one thing, past generations put the event into context within the mythic history preserved in the Torah. The splitting of the sea takes place in parashat Beshalach, Exodus 13:17 - 15:22. The parashah begins: "Now when Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although it was nearer; for the Holy One said, 'The people may have a change of heart when they see war, and return to Egypt.' So God led the people roundabout, by way of the wilderness at the Sea of Reeds. Now the Israelites went up armed out of the land of Egypt."

In our myths, as in our lives, facing enemies is difficult. Without some hope of winning, it can be impossible. In Jewish tradition, belief in the possibility of success is a spiritual achievement. It counts as merit when Abraham believes the Creator's promise of an heir in his and Sarah's old age; and when the Jews of Persia rejoice at Queen Esther's obtaining permission for them to defend themselves in a battle yet to come.

The freed slaves, leaving an oppressive familiarity for a world full of unknown dangers, lack the merit of hoping for success in battle. They try to look like an army, perhaps hoping that a fierce appearance will deter possible attacks.

But the Eternal knows that at the first sign of danger, they will return willingly to Egypt. To remain free, the Israelites will have to risk new forms of struggle. God's task is to inspire them with the courage to try.

God tells Moses to set up a trap for Pharoah and his army: "You shall camp by the sea, and Pharoah will think the Israelites are trapped in the wilderness." The plan works: the Egyptians pursue, and the famous miracle rescues the Israelites. "Thus the Creator delivered Israel that day from the Egyptians. Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the shore of the sea. And when Israel saw the wondrous power which the Holy One had wielded against the Egyptians, the people feared the Almighty; they had faith in the Eternal and in God's servant Moses. Then Moses and the Israelites sang."

Continued on page 4

Save the Date

Passover model Seder for preschoolers/toddlers and their families on April 26 from 11:30 am-1:00 pm at CSZ. Please call Renée in the office if want to help put on this program.

"You Too Were a Stranger in the Land of Egypt"

The Passover Haggadah instructs us to set an extra place at our seder for those people who have nowhere to go. As it says in the Sha'ar Zahav Haggadah, "Like generations before us, we now open the door to our Seder gathering. Again we invite all who are in exile to enter and join us. All who are afraid, all who think they have no place, those who fear they do not know enough to participate and those who have seen too much to believe in hope, we have set aside a place for you".

In order to make sure that all Sha'ar Zahav members have a seder to attend on the first night of Passover, April 21, we now have a "matching" program. We are encouraging anyone who is holding a seder to set one extra place for a Sha'ar Zahav member and asking any member who does not have a seder to attend to let us know so we can find you a seder to join. In the spirit of Passover, please call Renée Bauer in the synagogue office by April 14 if you can offer a seat at your seder or if you are looking for a seder to attend.



CSZ delegation to the UAHC Biennial. Top row: David Stein, Daniel Chesir, Robin Leonard, Paul Cohen. Middle row: Tiela Chalmers, Diana Buchbinder, Lea Salem. Front row: Alex Ingersoll, Larry Wexler, Ron Lezell.

From the Rabbi Search Committee

-Robin Leonard & Allan Gold, co-chairs

The Rabbi Search Committee just concluded a busy and exciting March, and we are anxious to update the congregation on the status of our work.

As many of you know, the Search Committee hosted two candidates for the position of rabbi of CSZ. One visited with us from March 7-9 and the other was here from March 27-29. If you had the opportunity to greet either or both rabbis and would like to share your impressions with us, please do so as soon as possible by dropping us a line at the synagogue or sending e-mail to the co-chairs (robinl@nolo.com and agold8946@aol.com).

The Search Committee hopes soon to narrow the pool of candidates to the one we'd like to recommend to be our rabbi. When that occurs, we will bring our recommendation to the Va'ad, and also bring that candidate back to CSZ to meet the entire congregation. If, after meeting the candidate, the Va'ad agrees with our recommendation, the Va'ad will formally recommend that the congregation hire the person to be our next rabbi.

Then the Va'ad will schedule a special congregational meeting to vote on the question of hiring a new rabbi for CSZ. So watch your mailbox for an invitation from the Search Committee to meet the candidate we hope will be Sha'ar Zahav's next rabbi.

Kadimah Open House

Kadimah invites all parents and children who are interested in participating in our school in the coming year to join us on Saturday, May 3 and Sunday, May 4 for a day of open classroom sessions. Our four oldest classes, grades 2-8, meet on Saturday morning 9:30 am-12 pm, and our youngest class, grades K-1 meets on Sunday morning 10 am-12 pm. Although Kadimah enrollment is open to members only, non-members are welcome for the Open House. If you would like to participate, please contact Tamar Malino at the office by Friday, April 18. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

From Torah Scrolls to Computer Scroll Bars

A new committee has been formed at Sha'ar Zahav to guide the synagogue onto the World Wide Web. At the most recent Va'ad meeting, a proposal was approved calling for the creation of a web site for the synagogue and for an ongoing committee to oversee its development.

Some of the information that would likely be on a CSZ web site would include:

- · An overview of the synagogue, including our history, philosophy and lit-
- A monthly calendar of services and
- The work of the various synagogue committees, and how to get involved;
- · The resources of CSZ including Kadimah, life-cycle rituals, counseling,
- · Information about how the CSZ community celebrates the holidays;
 - How to join Sha'ar Zahav;
- Links to other sites or organizations providing information of interest to the gay and lesbian Jewish community.

The initial ad hoc group that developed the proposal was organized by Eloise Magenheim, and included Drew Parker, Michael Chertok, Beth Sousa, Arthur Slepian and Mark Troy. This group will now become the synagogue's official Website Committee, and is actively seeking others who would like to devote their time and energy to this exciting project.

Ethical Wills: So That Your Values Live On

Are you interested in expressing the values and experiences in your life which have been most meaningful and passing some of these lessons learned along to others who follow you? Then you might be interested in a two session adult education class called Ethical Wills: So That Your Values Live On. held on Thursday night, May 1 and May 8, from 7-9 pm in the CSZ library. Steven Levine and Martha Rosett will lead this class, which will explore the distinction between these philosophical, "ethical wills," and other legally binding estate planning devices. We will also read the ethical wills of Jews throughout the ages, discuss our own contemporary values, and draft our own ethical wills. The class is free for members and \$8 for non-members. Please call the office no later than April 25 to reserve your place. Contact Tamar Molino at the office if you need any additional information.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new member this month. A warm welcome to the latest person to join our family:

Steve Weiner

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.



I will donate 10% of all commissions earned from CSZ referrals to the new building Capital Campaign Fund



Deborah Udin ZEPHYR Real Estate (415) 552-9500 ext. 122 email: deudin@aol.com

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times a year (monthly with a combined July-August issue) by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, 861-6932. E-mail: ShaarZahav@ igc.apc.org. To request permission to reprint material, call Robin Leonard (751-5758).

Members of the congregation receive the Forward. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a Forward subscription.

Members of the Newsletter Committee

Chairs: by committee

Editorial Coordinator: vacant

Layout Coordinator: Rose Katz

Editing/Proofreading/Layout: Stephan Howard. Batya Kalis, Rose Katz, Steven Levine, Lane Schickler, Karen Schiller, Sam Thal

Photography: Michael Bettinger

Advertising: Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@aol.com)

Distribution: Rachael Maclachlan, coordinator; John Atteridg, Alison Cohen, Virginia Donohue, Leora Eisenberg, Tess Johnson, Mark Klaiman, Drew Parker, Mike Siani, Sam Thal, Eli Weinstein

Typesetting: David Lester, Mouse Type Inc. Printing: Genesis Printing & Graphics

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked: attention Forward advertising. The Forward reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

April 1997/Volume 20, Issue 8.



President's Column

Out. Walking around. Reaching out. Being out. Being an out Jew. Helping out. Feeling the warm sun. Thinking and living Torah. Choosing life. Doing. Listening. Learning. Assured. Secure. Poised. Radiating a Jewish life. I am. I

do. I listen. I am Sha'ar Zahav. I am building a new mishkan.

All the Israelites were of like mind and contributed goods and energy build mishkan. We are, as the Israelites at Sinai, constructing



David Stein

a tabernacle, a mishkan, so that our shechinah can live among us in our community. (Have you made your Mishkan Dolores Pledge vet?) Out. In and among the public. On 16th street. Walking slowly parallel to the Dolores side of the mishkan, looking up, I imagine reading some Hebrew on the outside wall for all to look at, ponder and consider. Perhaps it says: build me a sanctuary so that I may dwell among you. We are doing just that. We are building a holy place for our community. And we are proud to be able to perform this mitzvah.

This is no small act we do together. We have found not just a larger place to meet, but a place to make holy and to make our spirits radiate into the community. We no longer hide among the hills ascending to Twin Peaks; rather, we are out, among the people. Declaring to all our Jewishness and the beauty and sanctity of our individual beings: all a part of this grand community of Sha'ar Zahav.

The spiritual nature of our Judaism is strong and active. Sha'ar Zahav does not announce its good intentions to do things, but acts on the intention and values that action even more than the intention. Good intentions are poetic hopes shared by so many cultures and religions: actions are Jewish realities. For us it is natural to be out, to do. Jews light candles to remember and to bring light, not just to hope and to wish. Our lights are lights of action to bring forth memories and provide warmth, a message, radiance and holiness.

Our souls compose themselves around this imperative! Tikkun Olam is not just an additional line in the long list of mitzvot but an elemental force at the core of our nature as Jews. We are partners in creation. Every day we see evidence that there is more to be done on the path we tread to a perfect world. Na'aseh v'Nishmah. We will do, the Israelites said in response to Moses at Sinai and then we will hear. First we will do, they said. The act connected them to our God; the act connects us to our neighbors.

As a congregation Sha'ar Zahav provides ways for you to be out and to reach out. One day to be really out and about being Jewish is on Sunday, April 27, for Sukkot in April, co-sponsored by our congregation and the JCRC and the Anti-Defamation League. Jews. Out. Doing. Acting. We will improve the facilities of the Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center in San Francisco. Our Program Coordinator Renée Bauer and our member Kenny Altman are organizing the many facets of this program for us. Read the flyer in this newsletter. Go out and do! Let's go out and be Jewish!

Return to your roots with...

Introduction to Yiddish Language and Culture

This 12-week course will introduce the participant to Yiddish language and culture. We will be using the textbook Learning Yiddish in Easy Stages. The course will include conversation, reading and songs. Knowledge of the Hebrew alphabet is helpful but not essential. The course will be taught by Sha'ar Zahav member Richard Kreig. Rich is a practicing physician with an interest in Yiddish. His parents speak fluent Yiddish and he has studied Yiddish in San Francisco and at Columbia University in New York.

The class will be held Tuesdays, May 27-August 5, from 7 to 9 pm. The fee for the class is \$18 for members and \$36 for non-members. Pre-registration and purchase of the textbook for \$25 are necessary. Accompanying cassette is optional. For further information, or to register, please contact Tamar Malino at the office.

Get involved! Volunteer for a committee

Teens Celebrate Positive Aspects of Judaism

Hundreds of Bay Area teens will meet at the Bernard Osher Marin ICC to share in a third annual celebration, on Sunday, April 13 from 1 to 9 pm. This year's program includes workshops, discussion, interactive games, sports, snacks, and a vegetarian dinner dance, and is open to all 8th through 12th graders wishing to join in this regional teen conference exploring the positive aspects of Judaism.

The cost is \$13. Admission includes recreational events such as swimming, sauna, basketball, ping-pong, and pool. Some workshop topics are: "Sex: Need We Say More," "Green Eggs and Sam (Jewish Cooking)," "Krazy Kaballah (Jewish Mysticism)," Arts & Crafts, and more.

For further information, contact Mitchel Adler (479-2000, ext. 3034).

HIV+ Support Group

CSZ has ongoing support services for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners on the third Saturday of every month, in addition to quarterly Shabbat dinners at the homes of members. Mark your calendars: Saturday, April 19 at 3 pm: Support Group at CSZ, facilitated by Rob Tat. If you have any questions or want to put your name on our confidential mailing list, please call Amy Clark at the office. Join us.

Discussion Group Beginning for African-American Jews

Denise L. Davis, M.D., is organizing a group for African-American Jews to discuss experiences, insights and questions. The first meeting will be held on Sunday, April 13 and topics may include Passover themes, the experience of being outsiders among outsiders and the integration of multiple roles. For information, please contact Dr. Davis (510/ 530-0857).

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Pesach

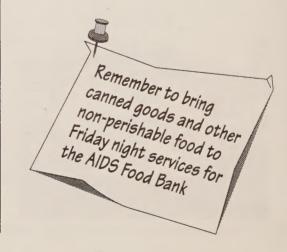
Continued from page 1

The Song of the Sea first celebrates God's victory over the Egyptians, and then anticipates the Philistines, Moabites and Canaanites being subdued by fear: "They are still as stone until Your people pass over." The Israelites still don't want to fight stronger, better organized nations. But in spite of themselves, they have changed: shortly afterward, when attacked by ruthless Amelekite bandits, they don't run back to Egypt. When forced, they successfully defend themselves.

The writers of the Haggadah knew that sustaining hope is both hard and necessary. They knew that daily life is, at best, inconsistent in encouraging human effort. They knew that generations could be inspired by the story of one great act of revolutionary overturning, one unambiguous proof that with God's help even the disorganized and frightened can survive a deadly attack.

Many generations of Jews have realized that the Source and Connector of all Creation could not possibly rejoice in the deaths of Egyptians. For thousands of years, Jews have spilled a drop of wine in symbolic grief for each plague that the Egyptians suffered in the course of our ancestors' liberation. We, descendants of the frightened rabble at the Red Sea, rebuke ourselves and diminish our rejoicing because our liberation came at the cost of others' lives.

However no midrash depicts anyone rebuking the people who were saved at the Red Sea. They lived through the miracle meant to prove for all time that no situation is truly hopeless. As long as we believe that God's help may enable us to survive and succeed whatever our circumstances, we have the right to share in their rejoicing.



Reform Leaders Reject Conversion Standards

The leaders of the Jewish Reform movement of North America flatly rejected Israel's governing coalition's latest attempts to change the laws defining conversion in Israel.

Recent efforts by the governing coalition of Prime Minister Netanyahu to deny official recognition of non-Orthodox conversions in Israel, by directly amending the Conversion Law, met with outrage from the Reform and Conservative movements in the United States and abroad. The current proposal attempts to avoid revisiting this conflict by instead amending the more obscure Rabbinical Court Law. Any conversion undertaken in Israel under the new law would require the authorization of the Head of the Greater Appeals Court, currently Chief Sephardic Rabbi Bakshi Doron.

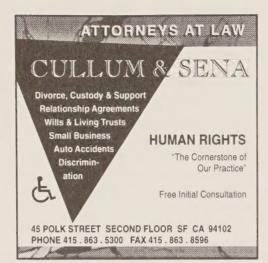
"Refusing to recognize non-Orthodox conversions is a violation of the freedom of religion guaranteed by Israel's Declaration of Independence," said Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

"Never before today has the Jewish State codified the invalidation of non-Orthodox Judaism," says Rabbi Yoffie. "In so doing, Israel has crossed a moral, political, psychological and social divide that will not easily be bridged."

For information on how you can make a difference, please contact our ARZA representative, Ron Lezell (626-5748).

Do you have email?

If so we want your address! Drop us a line at shaarzahav@igc.apc.org



Reminder!

1997 Building Assessments are due. If you haven't already paid your assessment of \$40 per adult member, please do so at your earliest convenience.



David Shaber (r), chair of the CSZ Bikkur Cholim Committee, presents a donation from the CSZ AIDS Fund to Ron Kos (1), member, Board of Directors of the AIDS Emergency Fund of San Francisco.

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Birthdays

- 1 Julian Levant
- 1 Barney Ugarte
- 3 **Judith Green**
- 3 Nathan Birnbaum
- 5 Heather Fox
- 6 Edward Schultz
- 7 Robert Schwartz
- 7 Gordon Osser
- 7 **Judy Macks**
- 7 Eli Agre Baum
- 12 Kathy Simon
- 12 Devra Felder Noilv
- 14 Iacob Rothman
- 14 Kave H.
- Lyssa Friedman 14
- 14 Amy Clark
- 15 Susan Stahl
- Nancy Sadlier 15
- Jeanette Nichols 16
- 16 Peter Barnes
- Robert Gordon 16
- 17 Diana Buchbinder
- 17 Julie LaPore
- 18 Dori Ehrlich
- 19 Sandy Meyers
- 19 Martin Spector
- 19 Henry Moskowitz
- 20 Leonard Brill 20
 - Aaron Nacamulli
- 22 Carrie Yang Costello
- 22 Barak Gale
- 23 Leslie Halpern
- 23 Eli Weinstein
- 23 Sara Haber
- 24 Samuel Austin Lowinger
- 24 Karen Schiller
- 25 Brian Ellis
- 26 Andre Fournier
- 26 Sarah Comerchero
- 29 Shirley Liberman
- 30 Henry Mach
- 30 Lynn Eden
- **Judith Klain**

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Israeli Government Funds Gay and Lesbian **Initiatives**

For the first time in the history of AIDS funding in Israel, both the Israel AIDS Task Force (IATF) and the Society for the Protection of Personal Rights (SPPR)—advocates for nondiscriminatory policies and practices through various methods of outreach in Israel—have received government funding in 1996. The SPPR received a combined \$4,000 and the IATF a combined \$26,000 from the Ministries of Education and Health.

Onegs

This generous person sponsored an Oneg Shabbat in February:

2/21 Ruthy Talansky, in honor of the birth of Esther Talansky

Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent losses:

Patricia Lin, on the death of her aunt, Jui-Ling Yu.

Stephan Howard, on the death of his friend, Stephanie Renee Reed.

Kibbutz Lotan Is Looking for a Few **Good People**

Lotan is looking for people to spend at least a month experiencing Lotan. In addition to working on the kibbutz, participants will be invited to attend informal educational programs on kibbutz life and Judaism as well as other topics of interest. Room, board and pocket money will be provided.

Lotan is a young kibbutz (14 years old) in the southern Arava valley, about 40 minutes north of Eilat. It has a population of 70 adults and 25 children. The main sources of income are from winter and spring agriculture, a dairy and a metalworking factory. Lotan is connected to the Israeli Movement for Progressive Judaism (American Reform) and the United Kibbutz Movement. As a community, Lotan is struggling with ways to be ecologically conscious and economically independent in a country where both are very difficult to achieve.

For information on how to contact Lotan, please call the CSZ office.

E-mail

The office has a new e-mail address:

shaarzahav@igc.apc.org

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Anniversaries

- 10 Judy Schwartz & Carolyn Pines
- 12 Elaine Porter & Ann Ritzma
- 13 Jane Boskoff Graeven & Mark Graeven
- 14 Rachel Bernstein & Susan Mizner
- 21 Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz
- 22 David Israels & William Salit
- Colette Patt & Jennifer Lorvick

What Is JobLink?

JobLink is a program at Jewish Vocational Services that offers Jewish people with disabilities the job placement assistance they need in order to meet their employment goals.

Jewish individuals between the ages of 16 and 65 who have disabilities and who are seeking employment are eligible. JobLink clients must be ready to work and motivated to participate actively with counselors and staff during the job-search process.

Please call the JVS JobLink coordinator to schedule an information session and initial interview (391-3600, TDD 391-2846).

You are needed!

Get to know what's happening early.

Volunteer for the Newsletter Committee.

Call Rose (285-4819).

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

GIFT SHOP

Open Friday nights 7:30-8:05 pm or by appointment (861-6932)

FORWARD MAY DEADLINES

FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, APRIL 7

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn @aol.com). To place a classified ad, call the office.

F O R ARTICLES MONDAY, APRIL 14

Please submit articles both on 31/2inch disk and hard copy on paper double spaced. Write "Attn. Gaily Forward" on top and mail to CSZ. No deadline extensions without advance permission.

East Bay Services

Roslyn Fuerman, 1376 Hopkins St., North Berkeley 510/526-1209

5/16 Ida and Evan Kuluk and Susan Spott, 4042 Maple Ave., Oakland, 510/530-4673

Contributions

AIDS Fund

Arnie Jackson, in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Phyllis Litman.

Lezlie Frishman, in honor of Ellen Goldstein's being elected Co-Chair of the HIV Prevention Planning Council.

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Beryl Brownstein, in memory of Leland

Henry Carrey, in memory of Neil Stansky

Children's Education Fund

Julie Moed and Shelley Eisenman, in honor of Rabbi Bernard and Helen Ducoff and in honor of Lyssa Friedman's inspiring service leadership at Shoshana's naming.

Nancy Meyer and Marilyn O'Keeffe, in honor of the love and support of all their friends in the congregation.

Ron Lezell, in honor of the birth of Samuel Dick-Gelmis.

Sharyn Saslafsky, in honor of the birth of Samuel Ruben Dick-Gelmis.

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in honor of the birth of Samuel Dick-Gelmis.

General Fund

Eva Zysman, in memory of Dr. Andrew

David Stein, in memory of Yetta and Ben Shuchat.

Gerald B. Rosenstein, in honor of Alex Ingersoll's 50th birthday.

Jonathan Funk, in memory of Mike Kozlowski.

David Stein, in honor of Leah Wolf.

Richard Weiner

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in memory of Larry Kain

Mark Mackler, in honor of Virginia Donohue and Mark Klaiman on the opening of their new business Pet Camp.

Mike Zimmerman, in appreciation of Rabbi Yoel Kahn.

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in memory of Gilbert Rubenstein.

Nancy Epstein, in memory of Erwin Epstein and Marilyn Epstein Levine.

Nancy Meyer and Marilyn O'Keeffe, in memory of Ron Wilmot.

Robin Leonard, in honor of Lane Schickler's acceptance to Hebrew Union College.

Robin Leonard, in memory of Alice Bernholz Sinkoff.

Richard Sinkoff, in honor of Irene Ogus' birthday.

Phyllis Eisenman-Lampert, in honor of the birth of Shoshana Maxine Eisenman Moed.

Robin Leonard, in honor of the birth of Samuel Dick-Gelmis.

Jonathan Pannor, in memory of Alice Bernholz Sinkoff

Sharon Silverman, in honor of Daniel Chesir, the newly named Vice President of UAHC, Northern California Council and Robin Leonard for completing her term as Vice President of UAHC Northern California Council.

Ionathan Pannor, in honor of the anniversary of Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman

Steve Elman and Tom Holt, in honor of Mike Rankin's 60th birthday.

Inclusive Liturgy

Anonymous, in honor of Johanna Ceapach Choinn.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Susan Gelmis and Ilene Dick, in honor of the naming of Samuel Ruben Dick-Gelmis

John Atteridg, in honor of Lane Schickler's admission into the Graduate Rabbinic Program at Hebrew Union College

Irwin Schonberger, in memory of Ella Schonberger.

Robert K. Tat Oral History Fund Michael Chertok

Henry Carrey, in memory of David Carrey and Fradle Post.

Torah Fund

Mike Rankin, in honor of Allan Giannini's birthday.

Special thanks to Ellen Lewin and Liz Goodman, for their donation of a computer.

Donations to the Mishkan Dolores Building Fund in memory of Ron Wilmot:

David Stein and Alex Ingersoll Carol and Buddy Levitin

Eli Weinstein

Mike Zimmerman

Ida Kuluk

Sharyn Saslafsky

Sam Thal

Lonny Darwin

Shirley Liberman and Margaret Livingston

Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman

Mishkan Dolores Building Fund

Myrna Cherin, in honor of Nancy Silverrod's 40th birthday and Abbe Lyon's 38th birthday.

Eve Meyer, in honor of Nancy Silverrod and Abbe Lyons' birthdays.

Michael Kossman, in honor of Henry and Frances Gordon.

Kim Shapiro, in memory of Alice Wall Rooks Berry

Eve Meyer and Jim Edlin, in memory of Jay Feinstein and Else Reisner.

Ida Kuluk, in memory of Adele Kuluk and Andrea Goldberg

Joseph Hample, in memory of Ben Hample, Henrietta Block and Nat Block.

Ernest and Laura Rosenthal, in memory of Sidney Rosenthal.

Annette Goldberg, in memory of Lester Goldberg

Roz Reiter, in memory of George, Pauline and Hal Reiter.

Gordon Osser, in memory of Maurice William Osser & Jeannette Zlotnick Osser

Sharyn Saslafsky, in honor of Alex Ingersoll's 50th birthday

Allan Berenstein, in honor of Alex Ingersoll's 50th birthday

David Gellman, in honor of Edward N. Gellman.

Arthur Slepian, in memory of George and Sarah Slepian.

Stephen and Trudi Hauptman, in honor of Greer's Bat Mitzvah.

Julie Moed and Shelly Eisenman, in honor of Susan Unger for her beautiful cantorial services at Shoshana's naming.

Naches

To Daniel Chesir, on being elected Vice President of UAHC, Northern California Council.

To Alex Ingersoll, on celebrating his 50th birthday.

To Mike Rankin, on celebrating his 60th birthday.

To Virginia Donohue and Mark Klaiman on the opening of their new business, Pet Camp.

To Ellen Goldstein, on being elected Co-Chair of the HIV Prevention Planning Council.

To Richard Inlander, on being elected to the Board of Directors of Sinai Memorial Chapel.

Synagogue Information

Officers:

President, David Stein (863-4769 or david.stein@internetmci.com) Administrative Vice President. Diana Buchbinder Program Vice President, Judith Cohen

Treasurer, Leah Wolf Recorder, Mark Bowers

Interim Rabbi

Rabbi Martha Bergadine

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Michael Chertok Ellie Cohen Jeff Forman Lyssa Friedman David Gellman Sara Haber Lisa Katz Eileen Levv Ed Lopatin

CSZ Staff:

Office Manager, Lea Salem Synagogue Educator, Tamar Malino Kadimah Head Teacher, Phyllis Mintzer Administrative Assistant, Amy Clark Program Coordinator, Renée Bauer

Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Claire Rappoport Archives, open ARZA contact. Ron Lezell Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander

Bikkur Cholim, David Shaber Bisexual Chavurah, Jim Frazin Book Circle, Mark Mackler Brotherhood, Stephan Howard Building, Mark Klaiman Bylaws, Edward Pollock Cemetery, Richard Inlander Children's Education Board, Ron Lazall

Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard and Rose Katz Dues, Susan Gelmis

East Bay Services, Hilary Zaid Endowment Fund, Richard Inlander Environmental Action, Barak Gale and Brian Besser

Finance, Leah Wolf Fine Arts. Alice Prussin Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin Infant-Toddler Chavurah, open Leadership Development, Irene Ogus and Paul Cohen

Library, Claire Rappoport Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold Membership, Steven Levine and Ami Zusman

Mishkan Dolores Campaign, Ellie Cohen

Newsletter, by committee

Oneg, Allan Giannini Past Presidents Council, Merry Luskin Personnel, Diana Buchbinder Pre-school Chavurah, Nancy Meyer Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky Rabbi Search, Robin Leonard and

Allan Gold Ritual, Ora Prochovnick Social Action, Eloise Magenheim UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin UAHC Regional Liaison, Robin Leonard

Volunteer Coordinator, open WCGLJO Liaison, Neil Grungras Women's Chavurah, open

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday from 9 am to 3 pm (861-6932).

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services.

Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am — check calendar for each month.

Gift Shop Hours: Fridays, 7:30-8:05 pm.

Library Hours: Open during office hours.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Volunteers Needed to **Drive Survivors to Yom** HaShaoah Commemoration

Jewish Family and Children's Services is looking for volunteers to drive older Holocaust survivors to the communitywide Yom HaShoah commemoration on May 4. The commemoration will take place at Temple Emanu-El at 7 pm. For information, call Sheryl Groden at JFCS (561-1244).

Members' Yahrzeits

- Ron Gertz
- Abraham Cohen 3
- 6 Dennis Mitchell
- Robert Sterman 21
- 23 Michael Randall



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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER: Clutter and chaos confounding your life? Afraid to open your closets? I can help you minimize, then reorganize your home, garage, office, and life! Call Bill at

APRIL

אדר ביניםן

- Tuesday 23 Adar II
- 6:30 pm, Dues Committee
- Wednesday 24 Adar II
- 7 pm, Advanced Prayerbook Hebrew
- 3 Thursday 25 Adar II
- 7 pm, Klezmer Band rehearsal
- Friday 26 Adar II
- · Camp Swig retreat
- 7 pm. Early Kabbalat Shabbat
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service: Shabbat Ha-Chodesh Shemini led by Jos Ceapach Choinn; Emma Buchbinder leads at Swig.
- 5 Saturday 27 Adar II
- · Camp Swig retreat
- · Kadimah at Camp Swig
- 6 Sunday 28 Adar II
- Camp Swig retreat
- Monday 29 Adar II
- 6:30 pm, CEB
- . 6 pm, Healing service
- 8 Tuesday 1 Nisan
- 9 Wednesday 2 Nisan
- 7 pm, Advanced Prayerbook Hebrew
- 7-9 pm, A & D Committee
- 10 Thursday 3 Nisan
- Friday 4 Nisan
- 7:15 pm, Niggun service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service: Tazria led by Daniel Chesir and Brian Besser, aufruf of Lane Schickler and Steven Levine

- 12 Saturday 5 Nisan
- 9:30 am, Kadimah: Chaverim, Rishonim, B'nai Mitzvah
- 10 am, Shabbat service: led by Frank Yellin, Ezra and Talia Barth-Rogers
- 12 pm, Torah study potluck
- 1 pm, Torah study: Tazria
- 13 Sunday 6 Nisan
- 1 pm-4 pm, A&D communitywide meeting: schematic design, at Dolores Street
- 3 pm, Rabbi Bergadine class on Song of Songs
- 7 pm, Social Action: Jewish Voice for Peace
- 14 Monday 7 Nisan
- . 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting
- 15 Tuesday 8 Nisan
- 16 Wednesday 9 Nisan
- 7 pm, Advanced Prayerbook Hebrew
- 7 pm, Newsletter editing
- 17 Thursday 10 Nisan
- 7 pm, Bikkur Cholim
- 7 pm, Membership Committee
- 18 Friday 11 Nisan
- 8:15 pm, East Bay service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service: Shabbat Ha-Gadol/Metzora, led by Dev Felder Noily, Nicole Bloom, Emma Buchbinder
- 19 Saturday 12 Nisan
- 9:30 am, Kadimah: All classes including Nitzanim: family day, Passover program
- 3 pm, HIV+ Support Group

- 20 Sunday 13 Nisan
- 10 am-3 pm, Mini-Advance
- 4:30 pm, Klezmer Band rehearsal
- 7 pm, Newsletter proofreading/layout
- Monday 14 Nisan Pesach—First Seder
- Tuesday 15 Nisan CSZ Seder
- 23 Wednesday 16 Nisan
- 7-9 pm, A & D Committee
- 24 Thursday 17 Nisan
- 6:30 pm, Ritual Committee
- 25 Friday 18 Nisan
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service: Shabbat Choi Ha-Moed led by Lyssa Friedman and Ora Prochovnick
- 26 Saturday 19 Nisan
- No Kadimah
- 10 am, Shabbat service and Yizkor
- 11:30 am-1 pm, Tot Model Seder
- 27 Sunday 20 Nisan
- Jewish Community-wide Succot in April
- 28 Monday 21 Nisan
- 29 Tuesday 22 Nisan
- 30 Wednesday 23 Nisan
- 7 pm, Advanced Prayerbook Hebrew

MAY

- Thursday 24 Nisan
- 7 pm, Ethical Wills Class, taught by Steven Levine and Martha Rosett
- 7 pm, Newsletter Distribution
- 2 Friday 25 Nisan
- 5:45 pm, Shabbat dinner— Nitzanim and Chalutzim
- 7 pm, Early Kabbalat Shabbat
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service:
 Achre Mot, led by Brian
 Besser and Danny Gevitz,
 aufruf for Karen Erlichman
 and Jane Rickerson
- 3 Saturday 26 Nisan
- 9:30 am, Kadimah: Chaverim, Rishonim and B'nai Mitzvah
- 10 am, Kadimah: Chalutzim
- Sunday 27 Nisan

Yom HaShoah

- 10 am, Kadimah: Nitzanim
- 1-4 pm, A&D Community-Wide finished design and detail at 290 Dolores
- 4:30 pm, Klezmer Band rehearsal
- 5 Monday 28 Nisan
- 6 pm, Healing service
- 6:30 pm, CEB
- Tuesday 29 Nisan
- 6:30 pm, Dues Committee
- Wednesday 30 Nisan
- 7 pm, Advanced Hebrew
- 7-9 pm, A&D
- 8 Thursday 1 lyar
- 7 pm, Ethical Wills class taught by Steven Levine and Martha Rosett

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

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Sukkot in April 1997

Jewish Family and Children's Services 1600 Scott Street San Francisco, CA 94115 415/567-8860 FAX 415/922-5938 Congregation Sherith Israel 2266 California Street San Francisco, CA 94115 415/346-1720 FAX 415/673-9439



Lead Agencies:
Christmas In April*
San Francisco
Congregation Sherith Israel
Chair:
Claudette Goldberg

Jewish Family and Children's Services Co-Chairs: Thomas R. Fox Elaine Benoit-Fox

Participating Agencies:
Anti-Defamation League
American Jewish Congress
Powerty Action Alliance
Bureau of Jewish Education
Bay Area Council for
Jewish Rescue and Renewal
Bay Area Jewish Singles
Hiking Club
Brandeis Hillel Day School
Congregation Beth Sholom
Congregation Beth
Israel-Judea

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav Jewish Community Federation Women's Alliance Young Adults Division

> Jewish Community Relations Council

Northern California Hillel Council

Peninsula Temple Shalom

Temple Emanu-El

Assisted by: Jewish Community

Jewish Community Information and Referral Koret Synagogue Initiative

San Francisco Foundation
FAITHS Intitiative
Volunteer Center of
San Francisco

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav Is Proud To Be Part of the First Annual Sukkot in April Day

On **Sunday**, **April 27** Sha'ar Zahav will be one of 18 synagogues and Jewish agencies participating in the first annual **Sukkot in April Day**. Sukkot in April will join Christmas in April San Francisco, a community-wide volunteer renovation program, to expand an annual rebuilding day into a full weekend of service.

During the last weekend in April more than 4,000 Christmas in April and Sukkot in April participants will work side by side with neighbors and beneficiaries to preserve and repair homes of low-income, elderly and disabled San Franciscans and to renovate community facilities. Simultaneously, more than 100,000 volunteers will be doing similar work with Christmas in April chapters nationwide.

Volunteers from Sha'ar Zahav, the Anti-Defamation League and Jewish Community Relations Council will join forces to help paint and renovate the **Asian/Pacific Islanders Wellness Center's new space** (in the same building as Project Open Hand). The Asian/Pacific Islanders Wellness Center is the largest comprehensive AIDS service provider for Asian and Pacific Islander people in the United States.

Sha'ar Zahav needs at least 50 volunteers; which means we need YOU!! Volunteering for Sukkot in April provides an excellent opportunity to be part of a brand new community-wide effort and make a real impact on people's lives. If you would like to volunteer for or make a donation to Sukkot in April please fill out the registration form on the reverse side of this sheet or call Kenny Altman, Volunteer Captain (441-7944) or Renée Bauer at the office.



SUKKOT IN APRIL

Volunteer Registration

Join in this exciting all-day community-wide event on April 27, 1997



Name(s)	Phone	
Address		
	1 your family or group en under 18	
No skills are necessary to volunt (Check all that apply)	teer, but if you have any of the following	skills, please indicate below.
	l Plumbing Food Prep	aration Carpentry
, ,	plies or materials, please indicate below.	
Business Name	Contact Name	
week before. We will be cooking	vant to volunteer extra hours, we need your and preparing Kosher-for-Passover lunch preparation at Congregation Beth Sholom (1	hes for more than 600 Jewish 301 Clement St. at 14th Ave.):
Thursday, 4/24	☐ 9 am-Noon	□ Noon-4 pm
Friday, 4/25	☐ 9 am-Noon	☐ Noon-3 pm
Sunday, 4/27—Sukkot in April	! Day!	9 am-Noon
To help cover these costs a \$10 cor Congregation Sha'ar Zahav notir	Passover) and a Sukkot in April T-shirt will atribution is being asked of every volunteen ig it is for Sukkot in April. We want every contribution and we will cover the cost.	r. Please make check payable to
☐ I cannot volunteer for Sukko	ot in April but I would like to make a dond	ation.
REGISTRATION DEADLINE Sha'ar Zahav/ attn: Renée Bauer,	IS APRIL 10!! Send in this registration fo / 220 Danvers Street/S.F., 94114	orm with \$10 to Congregation

The primary volunteer work will be painting, but administration and coordination positions are available on Sukkot in April Day for those unable to do physical labor.

The Capital Campaign

\mish-kan\ n. 1 dwelling place, home 2 tabernacle, sanctuary 3 temple

\$ 1,300,000 **Our MISHKAN DOLORES goal

754,250 = 58% of our goal as of 3/14/97! Thanks to everyone!

CSZ MEMBERS Pledges/Donations

Anonymous

Jessie Ap'neva/Nina Wouk

John Atteridg

Peter Barnes/Levna Bernstein

Ann Bauman Geoff Benjamin Allan Berenstein Brian Besser Michael Bettinger

Nicole Bloom

Mark Bowers Diana Buchbinder

Henry Carrey Tiela Chalmers

Michael Chertok **Daniel Chesir**

Bernard Choden/Lois Scott

Judith Cohen

Ellie Cohen/Greta Miskatel Paul Cohen/Bob Gutterman

Sarah Comerchero Jay Davidson

Pieter de Haan/Ruth Rainero

Steve Diller

Nancy Drooker/Alix Sabin Lynn Eden/Ruth Schoenbach

James Edlin/Eve Meyer

Shelley Eisenman/Julie Moed

Karen Erlichman

Jeff Forman/Paul Nemrow Rena Frantz/Ora Prochovnick

Gail Friedlander Jeff Friedman

Lyssa Friedman/Daphne Stuart Seth Frohman/Rafael Hoch

Jonathan Funk/Jon Arnold

David Gellman Allan Giannini Simon Glinsky Allan Gold Ellen Goldstein

Ruth Goldstein/Julie Stahl Liz Goodman/Ellen Lewin

Judith Green Kirsten Gustavson

Sara Haber

Joe Hample

Stephen/Trudi Hauptman

Steve Horowitz Stephan Howard

Alex Ingersoll/David Stein Susan Jacobson/Byron Sigal

Batya Kalis

Lisa Katz/Sharon Heath

Rose Katz Elliot Klein Ida Kuluk

Elizabeth Landsberg

Julie LaPore/Seth Moskowitz

Walter Leiss Robin Leonard

Steven Levine/Lane Schickler

Eileen Levy Ron Lezell

Shirley Liberman/Margaret Livingston

Ed Lopatin Judy Macks

Nancy Meyer/Marilyn O'Keeffe

Paul Margolis Irene Ogus Gordon Osser

Drew Parker/Mike Siani Carolyn Pines/Judy Schwartz

Steve Polsky Tsipora Prochovnick

Alice Prussin Jerry Rosenstein

Beth Ross/Laura Trupin

Margaret Rossoff

Marin Sanders-Holzman

Sharyn Saslafsky

Elizabeth/Michael Schaffer

Edward Schultz Michael Schwartz

Arthur Slepian/Gerald Llamado

Nina Jo Smith Susan Swigart Rob Tat Sam Thal Marion Trentman Susan Tubbesing Deborah Udin Eli Weinstein Randy Weiss Steve Weitz Larry Wexler

Ron Wilmot z"l Leah Wolf Frank Yellin Mike Zimmerman Ami Zusman

COMMUNITY Pledges/Donations

Anonymous (2) Wayne Bender Patricia Biggelstone Pamela/Paul Caine James Carlson

Eric/Aaron Cooper-Keitel

Karen Friedman Martin/Ann Gelfand Lisa Hamburger

Carolyn Issac/Randy Mayers

Janet Jacobs

Corrine/Stanley James Ingrid/Frank Jonas Jean/Norman Katz

Derrick Kikuch/Craig Weisner

Avse Kenmore Rabbi Peter Kessler Richard O. Leach Joan/Nathan Lipson Marilyn/Aaron Levine Mr./Mrs. Jerry Opper Craig Perfiko

Janis Portal Roz Reiter

Ernest/Laura Rosenthal Pam Schaffer

Ben Schatz Josh Schechtel Norman Schlossberg Sigi Scigliano Rita Semel

Kim Shapiro Michael Sieradzki

Sharon/Leonard Silverman

Roy Simon Howard Steiermann

Steven Sternfeld Louisa Stone Corrine Sue Wick

Want to volunteer? Any questions or concerns? Name mispelled? Please call CSZ at 415-861-6932.

Mishkan Dolores: One Month Closer To Our New Home!

Things are going really well! Here's an update on this month's developments:

Architecture and Design: Our architects (Goldman & Associates) are working hard on what is called the "program" phase of planning, in which they are taking in as much information as they can about our needs and our dreams. They have gotten information from the committees, and lots of helpful input from the first architectural congregational meeting. The next step is for the architects to take all this input and start to plan with it. A critical question we will be addressing in the next month relates to how much of a dream building we can afford. There has been much talk about possibly placing the sanctuary upstairs. While there are great benefits presented from such a plan, it is more costly, and we will need to evaluate those cost concerns. The Va'ad will be working with the Building Committee to ensure that we plan the best building we can afford. The next opportunity to meet with the architects will be April 13 at 11 am: your chance to see and comment on the latest plans and drawings!

Capital Campaign: Our capital campaign is coming along wonderfully! As of mid-March we had raised about \$754,250: 58% of our goal! We still need people to stretch: if people do, we will be able to put that sanctuary up on the top floor, with natural light and high ceilings and a real "sanctuary-like" feel to it. Our volunteer solicitors are out and about, and if you haven't been called yet, you will be soon! Please be kind to them: it's not an easy job to ask for money, and they are working hard for your congregation. Special thanks to Lisa Katz for coordinating the volunteer solicitation of members, and to Ron Lezell for coordinating community fundraising.

Some people have asked about what percentage of their gross income we are asking for, and how we arrived at the pledge request figures people are being asked for. When we came up with those asking numbers, the goal was to come up with a number that would make the person flinch, groan, and then finally decide maybe if they pushed they could do it. We did not have access to dues information, which is confidential, so we did the best we could. Sometimes the number we picked is too high, sometimes it is too low, and sometimes (as with the Three Bears) it is just right. Assigning a pledge request amount is an imprecise science at best: please do not be offended if you are asked for an amount that is too low! From what we hear, people are pledging anywhere from 5% of their annual income (from those on limited incomes) to 20% and higher. In the end, we are counting on each member to stretch as much as they can, and to do what's right both for them and for the congregation.

The fundraising concert by our member Randy Weiss and his colleagues Patricia Whaley and Joanne Tanner was both a financial success and a lovely concert, and we very much appreciate their hard work and generosity. Thanks to Susan Lubeck for organizing this wonderful event.

Conditional Use Permit: We have filed our conditional use permit application with the City. Our application is currently set for hearing on June 5, 1997, although we have asked the Planning Department to do the best they can to reschedule the hearing to an earlier date.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who are working so hard to make our dream of a new building a reality. As always, please call Tiela Chalmers at (415) 431-4312 to volunteer or for more information.

Don't miss the next architectural community meeting!!
Sunday, April 13, 1997, 11 am at 290 Dolores!
Come see the latest plans and drawings, and give the architects and the committee your thoughts.

See you there!

Congregational Seder Reservations

Congregational Seder Tuesday, April 22 Fort Mason Officers' Club

Reservations must be received by Monday, April 14

As always, we will celebrate Passover on the second night which this year falls on Tuesday, April 22. Possibly for the last time we will hold our Seder at Fort Mason Officers' Club where we have enjoyed ourselves in a surprisingly haimish atmosphere. The food is very good and the price is extremely reasonable.

Space is limited and allocated on a "first come" basis with members receiving priority. A reservation form is on the right with more details. THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN MONDAY, APRIL 14.

We always need a few volunteers for an hour or so before the Seder to help set up the tables. If you can help, please contact Shirley Liberman (707/829-8876). ALSO: If you have suggestions for an alternative space for us in the future, do let Shirley know.

Please print:			
NAME:	РНО	NE:	
MEMBER NON-MEMBER			
Please reserve the following number of places for:			
МЕМВЕ			
NON-M	EMBERS @ \$28 EEN@ \$12		
	ce of Meal(s):CHICKE		
Would you like to be seated at a table of single people?			
All seats will be reserved at pre-assigned tables of 14. You may reserve a full or half table by: 1) indicating names on reverse of this form; or 2) by paying in advance for all tickets. Unless members' names are indicated, all tickets are \$28 each. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO SATISFY ALL REQUESTS BUT THEY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED UNLESS A WHOLE TABLE IS RESERVED.			
Our synagogue subsidizes the cost of Seder for children and those unable to afford the whole cost. Can you help with this?			
I WISH TO DO	ONATE \$TO	WARD SUBSIDIES.	
I/WE WISH TO REQUEST A SUBSIDY			
Signing for hearing impaired can be requested when reservations are made.			
ALL RESERVA THAN MONE	TIONS MUST BE RECEIVED DAY APRIL 14.	IN THE OFFICE NO LATER	
My check is en	closed for a total of \$	·	
MAIL TO:	CONGREGATION SHA'AR 220 DANVERS STREET SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94114		
For further inf 8876).	ormation contact the office or	Shirley Liberman (707/829-	

NOTE: Fort Mason Officers' Club is located at the very foot of Franklin Street across Bay Street in the park, NOT across from Marina Safeway.

